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PETTURE CARD REPRODUCTIONS

Air Pouch No.

(RJA-A-61 DISFATCH NO.

5) DEN. 174 DATE 18 Sept. 1951

FROM

Chief, Camman ) 12-15

SUPJECT :

General - Operational

Specific - Countess Ellen Hohenau

- 1. Subject, a German Countess with a reputation as a horsewoman, has been in Jordan since the end of June 1951. Encouraged by the publicity gained following her trip from Sermany to home as a pilgrim on her Arabian more. Subject decided to undertake the trip to Jerusalem on horseback in order to gather material for newspaper and magazine articles. Carrying a letter sent by Clare Booth Luce to a mutual friend in Italy indicating an interest in the c ntemplated trip to Jerusalem, Subject proceeded to Beirut where she contacted Fell; the "Timerlife" correspondent. "Ithough she received little encouragement from Bell, she started out on the journey and reached Amean on 23 June.
- 2. After a slight delay in Amman because of illness, Subject had audiences with Abdullah and waif and later contacted Glubb (Pagha) who furnished her with an Arab Legion escort for the last leg of the trip to Jerusalem. Upon reaching Jerusalem Subject was received by Katie Antonious and presented to a number of Palestinians including Dr. Mousa Rusayni and his German wife. Shortly after Subject returned to Amman from Jerusalem, Abdullah was assassinated and Subject was questioned in an effort to establish Dr. Husayni's connection with the plot. She convinced the police that she knew nothing of the scheme.
- 3. By early August Subject's resources had dwindled to practically nothing. Through friends in the Arab Legion cavalry she was able to secure accommodations at the Zerka Camp (15 miles from Amman) as the guest of the Legion. During this period Subject became acquainted with Colonel Habis Cerria alli, the commanding officer of the Hashemite Regiment of the Legion and a judge in the Abdullah assassination trial. Following the exposure on 1 September of the scheme to place Naif on the throne and the possible involvement of Majalli in the plot, Subject was again questioned regarding her activity. However she visited Glubb Pasha and convinced him that she had no interest in politics and that her only reason for being in Jordan was to pursue her interest in Arabian horses and to gather photographs and other material for magazine articles. She obtained his permission to remain in the country for a few weeks longer and on 18 September accompanied Majalli on a trip to Kerak and Aqaba in order to obtain material on the Bedouins. Before leaving she stated that she will spend about ten days with Majalli and then a few in Amman before starting out on the return trip to Europe.
- 4. Although the Arab Legion does not object to Subject's presence in the country, the Prime Minister's office is anxious to have her leave as soon as possible. They consider Subject with auspicion because: (a) they claim that although Subject states that she is from Mentern Germany they have information that she is from Prussia, (b) of her friendship with the Husaynis and Majalli

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and (c) the bas actually made little effort to gather entired and places of her trip to Jerusalta althorga she in in desperate seed of sensy.

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Reg W. Bething

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